

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact Cristina Crowson Director of Communications Directed Energy Professional Society (505) 998-4910 Cristina@deps.org

DEPS Grants \$140,000 in Directed Energy Focused Graduate Scholarships

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M., August 17- The Directed Energy Professional Society's (DEPS) Board of Scientific & Engineering Advisors (BSEA) as well as its Executive Director, Mark Neice, proudly announced today the DEPS graduate scholarship awardees for the 2018-2019 academic year.

Fifteen promising students from the total field of applicants were awarded \$5,000-\$10,000 partial scholarships to continue studying or pursuing a career in directed energy (DE) technology areas. These scholars include: Matthias Banet of the University of Rochester, Justin Cook and Patrick Roumayah of the University of Central Florida; Samuel Dickerson of the University of Missouri-Columbia, Aaron Ediger of the University of Nebraska- Lincoln, Patrick Forbes and Ray Wambold of the University of Wisconsin-Madison; Matthew Kemnetz of Notre Dame University, Eric Konitzer of the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities, Amanda Loveless of Purdue University, Jessica Ma of Johns Hopkins University, Drew Packard of the University of Michigan, Jon Pouncey and Kevin Reilly of the University of New Mexico, and Amber Vargas of Clemson University.

Candidates for the award must be full-time graduate students who are interested in pursuing or are currently studying the directed energy (DE) technology areas of High Energy Lasers (HEL) or High-Power Microwaves (HPM.) Since 2011, DEPS has provided more than \$855,000 in scholarships. The funds for these awards are provided by grants from the High Energy Laser Joint Technology Office, the Office of Naval Research and DEPS.

"DEPS was privileged and pleased to receive 33 applications for its Fiscal Year 2019 Directed Energy Scholarship Program from 18 academic institutions. The DEPS Board of Scientific and Engineering Advisors (BSEA) was appreciative of the breadth and depth of topics proposed along with the enthusiasm evident in the student's introductory letters. Via a rigorous review process, DEPS ultimately has selected 15 applicants from 12 different institutions for awards totaling \$140,000. Of those, five are in areas related to High Power Microwaves including pulsed power components and 10 are in the Laser arena including propagation research, beam control, and laser components. We are excited to see the scholarship program continuing to grow in terms of applications and awards. We are proud to provide a critical role in supporting the education of next generation of Directed Energy specialists," said Dr. Diana Loree, DEPS Board of Directors Liaison to the BSEA.

The Directed Energy Professional Society fosters research, development and transition of directed energy (DE) technologies, including high energy laser (HEL) and high-power microwave (HPM) technologies, for national defense and civilian applications through professional communication and education. For more information, visit <u>www.deps.org</u>.

END ###